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THE GIBBON; OR, FLYING APE: NOW EXHIBITING AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.

THE ACTIVE GIBBON,

BELONGS to the third Genus of ORANGES, styled *Hylobates*, of which there are seven varieties known:—

1. *Hylobates HOOLOCK*.—*Simia hoolock*, Harl. *Trans. of Am. Phil. Soc.* Inhabits Goalpara.

2. *H. LAR*, Common Gibbon.—*Simia lar*, Linn. *Pithecus lar*, *Geoff. Ann. du Mus.* xxi. p. 88. Inhabits Eastern India.

3. *H. ALBIMANA*, White-handed Gibbon.—*Simia albimana*, Vig. and Horsf. *Zool. Jour.* No. xiii. p. 107. Inhabits Sumatra.

4. *H. VARIEGATUS*, Little Gibbon.—*Pithecus variegatus*, *Geoff. Ann. du Mus.*, xix. p. 88; *Desm. Mamm.*, p. 51. Inhabits Malacca.

5. *H. LEUCISCUS*, Wow-wow.—*Pithecus leuciscus*, *Geoff. Ann. du Mus.* xix. p. 59; *Desm. Mamm.*, p. 51. Inhabits Malacca and the Sunda Isles.

6. *H. SYNDACTYLA*, Siamang.—*Simia syndactyla*, *Raff. Trans. Linn. Soc.*, xiii, p. 241; *Horsf. Java*. Inhabits Islands of Sumatra.

7. *H. AGILIS*,* Active Gibbon.—*Fred. Cuv. Mammif.* Inhabits Sumatra.

Muzzle short; head round; facial angle 60°; canine teeth longer than the others; arms very long, reaching to the ground; tail and cheek-pouches wanting; with or without naked callosities.†

The Active Gibbon is known in the forests of Sumatra, under the name of *Ungaputi*. "It appears to have been first noticed by Sir Stamford Raffles, to whom specimens were brought by MM. Diard and Duvancel, who were for many years in the pay and employment of this most assiduous naturalist. These gentlemen also sent specimens to the Paris collections, which served as copies for Frederic Cuvier, in his great and elegant work upon the Mammalia. M. Duvancel also sent to Paris, descriptions, which were used for the above-mentioned work.

"The face is naked, and of a blueish-black. In the male, the cheeks and a superciliary band, are of a yellowish-white, beautifully contrasting with the clear chocolate-brown of the upper-half of the body. These marks were wanting in the female sent by M. Duvancel. The lower extremities are of the same dark colour, and the yellow part of the back, and fore-part of the thighs, are of a yellowish-brown. The shades of the colour, of both the light and dark parts, however, vary considerably according to age, and the light parts above, sometimes occupy a greater or lesser space. The hair, in healthy animals, is clear and fine, except upon the neck, where it be-

* *Hylobates agilis*, which signifies the "Nimble Walker of the Woods." *Hylobates* is a Greek compound, viz., "αλγ", a wood, and "βατης", one who walks.

† The reader will find a detailed History of Monkeys, in the first volume of the "*Naturalist's Library*," [Lizars]: to which delightful work we are indebted for part of our account.

comes lengthened, and somewhat woolly or curled. The young are always much paler in colour than the adults, or those of an advanced age, and the very young animals are of an uniform yellowish-white. The general height scarcely exceeds two feet seven or eight inches, and the arms reach the ground when the animal stands erect.

"They are endowed with surprising agility, and their light form and slender-looking extremities, hardly give an idea of the great muscularity which they possess. If the extreme tree on the borders of a forest can be reached by them, it will be in vain to pursue farther; they swing, leap, and, as it were, fling themselves from one tree to another, clearing, at times, a space of forty feet, with a rapidity which defies any pedestrian pursuer. When a slender branch can be grasped, the body is swung several times, until sufficient impetus is gained, and then they dart off with the utmost apparent ease and grace.

"In a state of domestication, they are not so lively as many other monkeys, though susceptible of some cultivation: they are easily frightened, and as easily again re-assured, fond of being caressed, inquisitive and familiar, and sometimes playful. In the internal anatomy, they differ from the Siamang species, (*Hylobates syndactyla*—*Raffles*.) in the absence of the guttural sack; nevertheless, the cry is nearly similar, which must show that this formation is not necessary to produce the howl of this and some other monkeys, or that some other structure must fill up the deficiency."

The singularly-interesting creature now exhibiting at the Egyptian Hall, was brought to England, June 1839, by Captain Smith, of the *Orestes*, who received it on board at Macao, it having been in confinement there about four years. On its arrival, it was purchased by the Bristol and Clifton Zoological Society, in whose gardens it remained until its removal to the above hall. It is the only living ape of its variety ever seen alive in England; she enjoys remarkably good health, and seems in excellent order. Sometimes she throws herself from a branch, a distance of ten or twelve feet, catches another by a hand, passes under it, and, by the muscular power of that hand and arm alone, throws herself over the bough, and back again to the first, having made a complete revolution with such a rapidity of movement, that renders it difficult for the eye to follow her; at other times, she is seen to descend from a bough, pass under one considerably lower than that she sprang from, and rise again to another as high as the former, seeming to annihilate the laws of gravitation, and this, apparently, without an effort, and with the utmost gracefulness. These aerial movements can be but very imperfectly described, and without being seen, scarcely imagined. The expression of her countenance, at times, is pleasing; at others, strongly expressive of a most restless and

excitable temperament. She is timid and suspicious, and it is seldom that she will take even her favourite food from the hands of a stranger. When excited or roused, her passion is very violent, and many have been her struggles with the keeper; but, though defeated at the time, she will not long submit to his discipline without another effort.

However pleasing the various aerial evolutions of this *singe-volante* appear, its *Vocal effusion*, (if we may be allowed such an expression) excite our wonder and admiration in an equal degree. As no writer has hitherto attempted more than a cursory notice of it, the following description, from frequent observation and attention, will, it is presumed, impart some idea of this truly extraordinary endowment.

The circumstances which call it forth do not, at present, appear to be correctly understood; sometimes it appears expressive of impatience, at other times of fear; but frequently, when sitting in her tree, without any of these causes in operation, the visitors are unexpectedly indulged. In addition, it may be said, that there are many ladies, who are able, with a little persuasion, to induce her to comply—on these occasions, she manifests feelings of pleasure and satisfaction at their presence. Its *chant* is commenced by a sharp and distinct *wow*, *wow*, which is continued, with occasional intermissions, for ten minutes, and sometimes for fifteen, when it ends in a long-continued and harmoniously-modulated quaver or shake—this is repeated, generally, as often as ten or fifteen times. The musical intonation, and the extreme rapidity of this shake, are both pleasing and wonderful; it begins with a slow and gentle note, which swells gradually and somewhat quickly, into a louder tone, at the same time that the rapidity of the shake is proportionately increased, until the highest pitch of intensity be attained. The "*crescendo*," which has thus been so admirably executed, now gives way—the "*diminuendo*" commences, which is, for a very considerable time, continued, and finally dies away, in a manner that would draw volumes of admiration from the most fastidious critic in music. At the conclusion of each *chant*, she becomes greatly excited, often seizes a branch with both hands, shakes it for a time with her utmost strength, and then begins her astonishing feats of swinging and flying.

The APE is a genus of quadrumanous mammals, which closely approaches to the human species in anatomical structure, and is justly regarded as the connecting link between man and the lower animals.

The significations distinguishing the different characters of this class of monkeys, has thus generally prevailed since the time of RAY.—An ape is a monkey without a tail, and a *baboon*, a monkey with a short tail; reserving the term *monkey* more particularly for those species that have very long tails.

HARP OF MY SOUL.

Harp of my soul! awake! arise!
Upon thee rests a hand divine;
Bright beings from the azure skies,
Around thee watch with beaming eyes
A holy power is thine!

See! see! the mighty minstrel sweeps
His fingers o'er the golden strings;
In purest bliss my soul he steepes;
In rapturous joy it smiles—it weeps—
And sighs for angels' wings.

Loud, and more loud, the thrilling strains
In richest harmony ascend;
Even in Heaven deep silence reigns,
While, bound in music's silken chains,
The listening choirs attend.

A gentle seraph leaves the throng,
And swiftly wings his way to me;
He whispers—"Peace, thou child of song!
Let grateful praise employ thy tongue,
God gives this harp to thee.

"Oh! then, preserve with pious care,
The gift in which His spirit dwells!
For immortality prepare;
Our joy thou shalt for ever share,
Whilst love thy bosom swells.

"Soon shall thy spirit soar above
This world of sorrow, strife, and pain,
On plumes of the heavenly dove,
To join the saints of light and love,
And with thy Maker reign."

Harp of my soul! thy strains shall rise,
And with celestial anthems blend;
When on this earth thy cadence dies,
With thee, to realms beyond the skies,
My spirit shall ascend!

Mansfield.

W. HARDY, Junr.

ERINNA OF GREECE.

SPARTANA, if you have tears to shed,
Drop them not o'er Erinna's head,
Death crieth to Jove—among the dead
Erinna must not number.

Immortal heart, she won the Fame,—
Change, time, nor death, can ever tame;
Eternity polits to the flame
Whose lightnings ne'er shall slumber.

From Pindar's tomb she snatched the lyre,
She touched; and lo! Prometheus fire
Rush'd and consumed it to a pyre,
Of ashes burning ever.

She sang of love, and sang so well,
That they who heard her could not tell,
What magic power produced the spell,
The spirit might not sever.

She sang of war,* fierce as the wind
Which sweeps the desert sand; the mind
Fled from the world of humankind,
To breathe within her own.

Whatever theme she chose or sung,
Forth listening thousands leap'd and sprung,
And round her harp tumultu'd hung,
To hear its lyric tune.

Yet cares, and sorrows, grief and pain,
Fied on her heart—and not in vain,
For often in her sweetest strains,
Would soul-breach'd anguish swell.

This made her old before her time,
This tun'd life's waters into brine,
Yet on her magic words divine,
How do the nations dwell!

* See her Ode on Bravery—or, as some critics contest, on the City of Rome—but there are reasons why the latter is objectionable.

TWO WAYS OF TRAVELLING.*

THERE are two methods whereby a man may travel. The most simple of the two, the most commodious, and the most easy, indeed, that which ought to be generally adopted, is the travel which is *never made at all*. This proposition ought to appear to you as clear as the day, but in pity to your obtuseness of comprehension, I will assist you with a few words of explanation.

I will fancy, that on a beautiful day, in putting your head out of window, the perfumed freshness of the morning air, the singing of birds, the fragrances of flowers, and gales of cool spring-wind blowing amid your hair, inspire you with a desire to make a voyage somewhere—in Germany, Switzerland, or anywhere else. Now, you can execute this voyage in two ways:—

In the *first case*, you bonnily procure a travelling-carriage and post-horses, put your cash-book in your pocket, kiss your wife if you have one, and smacking the reins—start. Such is the method most generally adopted; indeed, there are a great many people who never think of travelling any other way. It is, however, a prejudice, which we flatter ourselves we shall destroy, on laying before you the second case:—

Second case: You take your morning robe, the softest that you have; your unwhisperables, the roomiest your tailor has made you; you throw yourself in the most elastic arm-chair or sofa you possess; and if you want, for example, to make the tour of Switzerland, take any book that treats upon the subject.

We presume that you have the felicity to fall upon a set of travels spiritedly (*spirituellement*), written and related, so that you at once agreeably procure for a companion, or fellow-traveller, a man of taste, who will not quit you at the first post.

Following him without fear, you are not liable to be accosted or scurrilized by a gen-darme, nor plundered by a brigand, disguised as an hotel-keeper.

If they stop your fellow-traveller to demand of him his pass-port, you leave him to embroil himself, as much as he likes, with the man of authority in large boots, very sure that nothing of the kind can menace you.

You relish all the pleasures of travelling, without participating in its inconveniences. Your man of taste is a substitute, who takes upon himself, for you, all the troubles of the journey. Every evening that you wish him good night, you leave him stretched upon the mattress of an inn, or in a corner of the stage-coach, whilst you sleep quietly and undisturbed in your bed of down. This is a delight which surpasses every other, especially if your bed is free from fleas.

You see all that he sees as well as he; you visit in his company the promenades, the public

gardens, the monuments, the cathedrals, and the museums.

If he wants to cross a lake, to venture on a glacier, or climb a mountain, he has the complaisance to carry you on his back; if he makes a false step, so much the worse for him; as for you, it matters nothing! you fall always into your arm-chair.

When he is hungry, you dine for him; when thirsty, you drink in his stead: if he be cold, you cause a huge fire to blaze in your grate; if he be hot, you let down your blinds, and then travel in the shade.

When you have had enough of his company, you say to him, "By Jove! I have travelled enough to-day; you can go on; I'll rejoin you to-morrow, after breakfast."

You leave your companion by the evening-star, on Mont-Blanc, in the Pontine Marshes, or on the borders of the Nile, while you pass your evening at the Opera.

The next morning, you say, with some doubt,—“Provided my man was not killed last night by a brigand, or devoured by the crocodiles, I must hasten to go and rejoin him.”

For this purpose, you breakfast comfortably, rummage about the banks of the Nile some time, and then finish by discovering your companion on the left-hand side of the first pyramid.

He relates to you what he saw and did on the preceding night, how he is rheumatized in his neck,—how he scarcely escaped being clutched by the crabs—and how he got nothing for supper but a stale onion, or a skinned serpent.

You proceed on your journey, side by side with him, and while you discuss a beef-steak, and soak yourself liberally with *Bordeaux*, your fellow, as he analyses the places through which he passes, dines on some crude hedge-berries, and drinks from a muddy pool.

At last, you arrive at home, and very feelingly you cry out, “Well, here we are at our journey’s end! Mihercle! behold a voyage made without the least exertion.”

Your companion has taken an incredible deal of pains; he returns, knocked up with fatigue, half-dead with hunger—having worn out a shop-full of boots, and expended an enormous sum of money. You have returned, the same day as he, fresh and rosy; you have seen all that he has seen, learnt all that he has learnt, and that without your having listened to anything.

If ever you are seized with a desire to make the tour of the world, make it without quitting your arm-chair, and you will see as many novelties—as well as if you had really run after them.

EARLY GREEK SONGS.

In primitive times, before the art of writing had been invented, the simplest means were employed for perpetuating the remembrance of important events. Among those resorted

* Translated from the French paper “Charivari,” as quoted in the “*Courier de l’Europe*.”

to, none were more general than songs. In these, national calamities and successes were rehearsed, the anniversaries of defeats and losses lamented, and those of victories, births, and marriages, commemorated and celebrated.

Hence the ancient Greeks had songs proper to all their different professions, as the subjoined list will show:—

The Beucoliasm, or song of the Shepherds.
Lytiæse, or song of the reapers.
Hymæe, or song of the millers.
Elîne, or song of the weavers.
Yulè, or song of the wool-carders.
Nunnia, or song of the nurses.
Nomion, or song of the lovers.
Calycè, or song of the ladies.
Harpalycè, or song of young girls.
Hymenæa, the marriage song.
Datis, the song for merry occasions.
Ialémè, the song for lamentations.
Linos, the song for funerals.

THE DREAM OF A DREAMER.

A PHANTASY.

SLEEP hides from view the first world with its darkness and its sorrows, and shows us a second, and in it are the forms we have loved and lost, and scenes which are too lofty for earth.

I dreamed that I was in this second world, in the islands of the blest; the stars came nearer, the blue sky rested on the flowers, the air was music; and Peace and Transport, which are separate among us, lived there together. And the dead, on whom the cloud of life had fallen, lay in rest, like soft stars in the firmament, and lo, the earth arose in her orbit and moved towards me, and spring had covered her with buds and blossoms. As the earth drew near the island of the blest, a loving voice said, "Look upon your old dwelling-place, ye departed, and behold the loved ones whom you have left, but not forgotten."

When the voice was heard, the spirits moved to the banks of the heavenly island, and looked upon the pale dim world, to see the hearts of their beloved ones. And a noble spirit sought to find his wife and children, who stood in the midst of the flowers of spring, but for whom no spring bloomed. And the father saw his children full of tears, the husband his wife full of sorrow—and when he saw the companion of his youth, and how the thorns of life were entering deep into her spirit, and how she lost hope but not resignation; the loving father sank on his knees, and wept and prayed, "Eternal, let her die! Soothe the pain of her bleeding heart, and give me my beloved again—oh, let her die!" And as he prayed her sorrows and her life ceased together, and she returned to his arms to rest there for ever and ever.

Weep not then, ye children of earth, for those who die, since, after equal sufferings, they soon partake equal joys. An eternal

summer follows the short winter of life! Recognize ye not in the hand that takes your life away—the hand that takes away your trials and your woes! Shudder not at the house which is destined to be your abode, narrow and dark indeed, but opening to splendour and immortality.

TREATY BETWEEN THE RUSSIANS AND CHINESE, 1689.

AFTER passing through Siberia, and leaving to the south, a hundred hordes of Tartars, and white and black Calmucks, and Moguls of the Mahometan and Pagan religions, you advance to the one hundred and thirtieth degree of longitude, and fifty-second of latitude, upon the river Amour. To the north is a chain of mountains extending to the Frozen Ocean, beyond the polar circle. The Amour, after running upwards of five hundred leagues through Siberia and Chinese Tartary, empties itself into the sea of Okotak. It is called the Black River, by the Manchoux Tartars, and the Dragon River, by the Chinese. It was in this part of Asia, in a region scarcely known to other nations, that the Chinese and Russians, during the reign of Peter the Great, were disputing about the limits of their empire. The Russians were possessed of some forts towards the river Amour, within three hundred leagues of the great wall, on account of which, there had been several hostilities committed on both sides. But the emperor Camhi, preferring peace and commerce to an unprofitable war, sent seven ambassadors to Niptchou, one of those settlements, for the purpose of concluding a treaty of peace with the Russians. These ambassadors, whose retinue, including their escort, consisted of ten thousand men, were the first that had been sent to a foreign power; the Chinese having never before concluded a treaty of peace since the foundation of their empire; for, although twice conquered by the Tartars, who were both times the aggressors, they never made war against any nation, except a few hordes, who were either conquered or dispersed, without the necessity of a treaty. The negotiation was conducted on the side of the Chinese, by two Jesuits, who had accompanied the ambassadors from Pekin. These Jesuits carried on the conference in Latin, with a German belonging to the Russian embassy, the head of which, Gollowin, Governor of Siberia, being accompanied by a retinue more splendid than the Chinese, was of great service in forwarding the negotiations, the Chinese having thereby formed an high opinion of the Russian empire. The limits of both empires were fixed at the river Kerbechi, near the spot where the treaty was concluded; the country south of the river being adjudged to the Chinese; and that on the north to the Russians. A peace was likewise agreed to, which, after some contests, was sworn to by the Russians

and Chinese, in the following terms:—"If any of us entertains the least thought of renewing the flames of war, we beseech the supreme Lord of all things, who knows the heart of man, to punish the traitor with sudden death." The treaty having been reduced into Latin, and two copies made of it, the Russian ambassadors set their names first, on the copy left in their possession, and the Chinese likewise signed theirs the first, according to the European manner of treating between equal powers. After the conclusion of the treaty, it was engraved upon two large pillars, erected on the spot, to determine the boundaries of the two empires.

W. G. C.

ANCIENT CITIES.

[UNDER this title—"Ancient Cities"—we, this week, group all such, notices of which occur at the present moment, in new-published books or works.

For extracting the first from the valuable columns of the *Athenæum*, the Editor, we are assured, will not feel offended. It consists of a private letter communicated by Mr. Charles Fellows, from Asia Minor, announcing extraordinary discoveries of long-forgotten cities in those parts.]

DISCOVERY OF SEVEN ANCIENT LYCIAN CITIES.

Writing from Syra, 5th June, 1840. Mr. Fellows says, "I have mostly confined myself to the small, but exquisite district of Lycia, and in three months, have reaped much . . . I have in this tour, discovered seven ancient Lycian cities, of which I have, by numerous inscriptions and coins, ascertained the names, and many other piles of ruined towns and castles, still nameless. . . . The age is probably earlier than the fourth century before the Christian era, and the works are illustrative of Homer and Herodotus. Only fancy my finding, within the Portico of rock in bas-relief, four large landscape views of the ancient city, proving, beyond doubt, the form and finish of the walls and towns of the ancient Greeks. In another, in the valley of the Xanthus, the very scene of the exploit, is Bellerophon and Chimeras; in others, mythological and family groups of exquisite workmanship, retaining the painted colours upon them; but, far before all this, I have found beautiful groups of figures, each having over them, like the Etruscan, their names in the Lycian language, and some bilingual, with the Greek. I have also copied an obolistic inscription, of two hundred and fifty lines, in the Lycian character, with a portion of bilingual, this being of beautifully-formed letters. I have no doubt that I have now materials to elucidate the language. I have many rare silver coins, with the same Lycian character upon them, and other characteristic emblems of the several cities. One set consists of coins found in the ancient Pinara, with the name and emblems of the city. The coins and city have

been lost for, perhaps, twenty centuries—Erycaud, Cadyaada, Sidymeus, Massicitus, Calyinda, and Gagee.

[This is, in truth, a rare discovery, and all of them stand on a white space on the maps.

Our next notice of an ancient city, is that which occurs in a brilliant work just published, entitled "*The Palace of Architecture*," by George Wightwick, Architect. [Fraser.] The subjoined extract furnishes a fine display of the unshakable sureness of prophecy, in the ultimate abandonment and desolation of

EDOM IN IDUMÆA.]

In no instance does architecture show its importance so impressively as at Petra, in Idumæa, where, in its most singular and romantic guise, it develops to the wondering present, the mysteries of the prescient past, and speaks from the "clefts of the rock," and from "the heights of the hill" to the "astonished one who goeth by." Gorgeous temples, sculptured and excavated rocks, tombs, and theatres, remain to tell that this *was* the "Edom," once recognized as "the terrible," "the proud," peopled with "the wise and the understanding"—that this is the "Edom," now "small among nations," and "greatly despised," wherein "wisdom is no more," and from which "understanding is perished"—that this is the "Edom," once the populous and opulent abode of the descendants of Esau; now "a desolation and a curse"—a habitation for dragons, and a court for owls; that this is, in fine, Edom—the theme of prophetic warning—the evidence of prophetic truth—the "fallen" beneath Isaiah's curse!

[To crown our present chapter, we further adduce the following paragraphs, excerpts of "*Letters from the Old World*." By a Lady of New York. (New York, 1840.) Visiting the site of one of the grandest cities of old time—Heliopolis, the city of the Sun, where, long before the time of Moses, was taught "all the wisdom of the Egyptians;" where too, above all, the feet of "the child Jesus," in his fair-haired and angelic young loveliness, wandered, she pours out the emotions of her heart in pure and unaffected phrase. Eloquent on these things, she thus discourses on the buried majesties of

ANCIENT HELIOPOLIS.]

The whole site of the city Heliopolis, the On of Scripture, lies deep buried beneath the alluvial soil, deposited by the overflowsings of the Nile. There is nothing now to be seen but the mounds that mark the line of wall which enclosed the area of the temple, the latter having entirely disappeared: its materials having been employed in the building of Alexandria. One single monumental stone, marks the grave of the "City of the Sun;" it is a solitary obelisk, with its tall spire still pointing towards the same meridian course of the God of Day, which it indicated four thou-

sand years ago. My visit to this now desolate spot, awakened in me feelings which nothing I had yet seen in Egypt, (or any other part of the world) had the power to arouse. What was it to me, individually, that I was within the very tomb of the great Sesostris, or stood in the shade of the musical Memnon, where sat Cambyzes the Destroyer, while his myrmidons were doing their worst upon the beautiful city! Among the ruins of Memphis, there is nothing left whereby to fix the identity of any particular spot, of which one might say with certainty, "Here stood Moses, and there Aaron; while there sat the Pharaoh, surrounded by his court, beholding those miracles in which we are directly interested, inasmuch as they emanated from that God whom we now worship, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob. But at Heliopolis, who can say that the great law-giver, previous to his divine mission, while the years of his youth were being spent at this great fountain of knowledge, did not many a time and oft recline against this same obelisk (one of the most ancient now existing in all the land of Egypt); and, while his tutor-priest of On was endeavouring to imbue his youthful mind with the subtle mysteries of his craft, the young Israelite was inwardly true to the religion of his fathers, and looked forward to that day when he should confound the wisest of his masters, and be the deliverer of the chosen people of God! You may, perhaps, imagine the feelings with which I opened the books of the inspired writer, while seated at the foot of this same obelisk; but, it is impossible that you can realize the emotions which I felt on a spot, so identified with the earliest history of our Sacred Scriptures. I read chapter after chapter, from that which records the arrival of the young Israelite slave in Egypt, to the exodus of the subsequent great nation of God's peculiar people. The heat of the mid-day sun compelled us to seek shelter in a grove near by. There, among orange and lemon-trees in full bearing, we seated ourselves beside a copious spring of living water (the only one we had seen in all Egypt), the stream from which, served to irrigate the whole of this Egyptian paradise. It was, doubtless, this delightful fountain, and the groves which it nourished, that suggested the idea of this appropriate site for a secluded seat of learning. How often at this same fountain has Moses drank! While the priests of Baal were engaged in their splendid mummeries at the shrine of their beastly god, is it not fair to presume that the chosen instrument of God's power and will, often fled from the disgusting rites of the temple, to the seclusion of this grove; shaking from his garments the profane incense of Saba, to inhale the delightful odours of this retired spot, while he bowed the knee to the only true God! Tradition, from the earliest time, says, that at this same fountain, and in this grove, reposed the Holy Family on their first arrival in Egypt. There grows beside this co-

pious spring, a sycamore-tree, of enormous size and age. Monkish legends connected with this spot, make it contemporary with the Holy Family. Independent of the certificate of the priesthood, it is not impossible, nor do I think it improbable, that this venerable relic of other ages, was in existence at the birth of our Saviour. In many parts of the world, if the accounts of naturalists of known veracity are to be depended on, there are trees more than double the age assigned to the great sycamore of Heliopolis. That Joseph and Mary, with the infant Jesus, reposed under this same tree, there is little room for doubt, and much to strengthen the belief, that the Holy Family did halt beside this fountain when they first came into Egypt. When the "flight into Egypt" took place, it is not at all probable that Joseph went from Bethlehem down to the coast of Gaza, and from thence, along the highroad to Pelusium; for, by so doing, he would be exposing himself and his sacred charge to the vigilant police of Herod. It is most probable, that he went directly south to Hebron, and thence, by the caravan route, across the desert to Suez, and from thence to Memphis. By this route, he would soon be out of the reach of pursuit; and the first point which the thirsty and way-worn traveller from Suez attains in the cultivated parts of Egypt, is Heliopolis, with its refreshing fountain of living waters. It is not unlikely, therefore, that the venerable tradition is true, so far as it relates to the Holy Family having reposed beside the fountain, whether they came directly across the desert, or by way of Pelusium; for the road from the latter place to Memphis skirted the edge of the Desert, and On was one of the halting-places on the route. You may think that I have taken much unnecessary pains to establish the grounds for my belief in this tradition, and that it is of little moment whether or not the infant Saviour and his parents drank at this spring. To me, however, it is a source of much satisfaction to be able to believe, with some degree of reason, that I have quenched my thirst at the same fountain with the Saviour of mankind.

[By the solemn thinker, might a deep moral be drawn from the above passages. Nine huge cities, whose mighty hearts once rolled out tides of human beings—whose marts and emporiums were crowded with all the splendours of earth—in whose halls and streets, the sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all other kinds of music, were heard from sun-rise to sun-down, are now all jumbled into the stillness of death, and the destruction of the grave. The shadow of an invisible hand has passed over them, and annihilated them into ruin—the rank grass waves above them in the dreary winds, and scarce even the satyr or the owl dwell among that "abomination of desolation."]

THE CORBEILLE OF LOUISE;

OR, A SACRIFICED MARRIAGE.

[A True Tale.]

A PARISIAN gentleman, son of a very wealthy banker, was about to marry a young lady of high rank, and everything was prepared. The bridegroom had sent in the *corbeille*, which was extremely rich, the diamonds alone worth above one hundred thousand francs. Wishing to enjoy the gratification of his bride, the rich bestower followed close on the heels of his present, and finding no one in the parlour, ensconced himself in a window, behind the curtains. Presently a whole bevy of girls fluttered into the room, and all began talking at once. "Oh! did you ever see such a beautiful *corbeille*! Louise is lucky, what a generous husband she will have!"—"She ought to be happy, to be sure, but do you know what she told me just now! why, that she had rather have the *corbeille* without the gentleman."—"It can't be, she never said so."—"She certainly did, and there she is, you can ask her yourself. Louise, didn't you tell me you would rather have the *corbeille* alone, without Mr. —?"—"Yes; I do say so; but that's between ourselves."—"Much obliged to you, mademoiselle," said Mr. —, coming forward, "you shall not have either." So saying, he coolly put the splendid present under his arm and walked off, leaving the ladies in an embarrassment "easier conceived than expressed."

LA FONTAINE'S SIMPLICITIES.

It is a mistake to suppose that La Fontaine's charming style was the gift of nature merely; on the contrary, it was close observation of the animal creation, that gave him that familiarity with their habits; and study, that gave him that ease and grace of style, which have entitled him above all others, to the name of *Le Fableur*. As a proof of his habit of observation:—

He was once to dine with a party of friends, but he could not be found for hours, and at last was caught in the grounds. When asked what had detained him, his answer was, "I have just been to an ant's funeral; I walked with the procession to the burying-ground, and then waited on the family home."

One morning, while waiting to see an acquaintance, he took up a Bible he found on the table, and opened on the prayer of Baruch in the Apocrypha, and soon got absorbed in it. When his friend came in, he cried, "Why, this Baruch is a fine writer, pray who is he?" and for a week after, he saluted every one he met by asking, "Have you read Baruch?—he is a very fine writer."

A thousand stories have been told of his profound ignorance of the commonest affairs of life. His features were heavy, and his eye, except occasionally, inordinarily dull, so that everybody, except the discriminating few, might have taken him for a simpleton.

Arts and Science.

BIRMINGHAM NAIL-MAKERS.

Nail-making: its Antiquity.—The use and antiquity of nails are equally indisputable; it would, therefore, be almost as impossible to say when they were not known, as to specify the precise era of their earliest manufacture among any people acquainted with the methods of working iron.

Nail-making in England: Birmingham.—In this country, the nail-makers, in general, inhabit certain districts, scattered, perhaps, over a considerable space, and working one, two, or three persons, and sometimes whole families of both sexes, in their little smithies, fitted up with bellows, hearth, a small anvil, and a few other simply formed tools.

Hutton's description of Birmingham nail-makers.—The appearance of the workshops, and their inmates, in the neighbourhood of Walsall and Wolverhampton, half a century ago, and which is but little changed at present, is strikingly described by Hutton, the quaint historian of Birmingham. "The art of nail-making," says he, "is the most ancient among us. We may safely charge its antiquity with four figures. We cannot consider it a trade in, so much as of Birmingham, for we have but few nail-makers left in the town; our nailors are chiefly masters, and rather opulent. The manufactures are so scattered round the country, that we cannot travel far in any direction out of the sound of the nail-hammer. But Birmingham, like a powerful magnet, draws the produce of the anvil to herself. When I first approached Birmingham from Walsall, in 1741, I was surprised at the prodigious number of blacksmith's shops upon the road, and could not conceive how a country, though populous, could support so many people of the same occupation. In some of these shops I observed one or more females wielding the hammer with all the grace of the sex. The beauties of their face were rather eclipsed by the smut of the anvil. Struck with the novelty, I inquired, 'whether the ladies in this country shod horses?' but was answered with a smile, 'They are nailors.'"

Nail-makers' Workshops.—To economise coals, shoproom, &c., two or three nail-makers commonly occupy but one hearth, using the same fire and the same bellows in turn. A circular forge, also, of new invention, has been introduced into some, especially useful in the manufacture of horse-shoe nails in a charcoal fire.

Materials and Manufacture.—Good nails are manufactured out of the best foreign or native iron, which is prepared by being rolled or slit into rods of the proper strength, according to the size of the nails which are to be drawn out of it. These are of various sizes and shapes, from what are called brads or spikes, which are sometimes nearly a foot in

length, for the shipwright's or builder's use, to the smallest tingle nails of about a quarter of an inch.

The Anvil, upon which the nail is actually drawn out of the rod by hammering, is a small cube of steel, with a surface of but a few inches in extent, and is itself inserted into a cast or wrought-iron block, weighing from one to two cwt.; the whole of this larger mass being generally surrounded with stones, and embedded in smithy slack, so that only the small anvil is seen.

The Hammer used is larger or smaller, according to the size of the nails to be formed; its usual form is the frustrum of a cone, the smaller end being the face, which, instead of forming a horizontal plane, as in the case of an ordinary round hammer, is inclined or sloped considerably towards the handle.

The degree of this obliquity, the weight of the hammer head, the size and shape of the handle, &c., are matters of nice consideration, one nailor being rarely able to work comfortably with another man's hammer; hence, as they are somewhat given to tramping from place to place, each workman generally carries with him a favourite hammer, which, like the fabled mallet of Thor, is both the symbol and the agent of the owner's power.

The Hack-iron and Bore.—When the nail has been drawn out to the proper length and form upon the anvil, it is cut off the rod, by striking it upon an upright chisel or hack-iron, and instantly inserted into an instrument called a bore, in order that the head may be formed while the iron is yet red hot, for the shank is drawn out, the nail cut off, and the head flatted at a single heat. This bore is a piece of strong iron, ten or twelve inches in length; near to each end there is a knob or swell of steel, perforated to the size of the shank or collar of the nail, and countersunk, so as to correspond with the head. It is by inserting the nail through one of these holes or bores, and striking it with the hammer on the thick end, that the head is formed, whether beaten flat, or left with a quarter-formed rise in the centre. Although the method of working is pretty much the same with different individuals, the degree of perfection and neatness displayed in the formation of so simple an article as a nail, varies very considerably in different hands.

Horse-shoe Nails.—If the quality of material be of importance in the making of nails for ordinary purposes, much more is this the case in reference to those that are used for the fastening of horse-shoes. The iron for this purpose ought either to be of a good foreign mark, or the best British that can be obtained. Many of the old nailors in the north of England speak with enthusiasm of the superior nails which they used to produce when working the Russian CCND, and, next to that, the rich Cumberland iron.

Feats of Nailors.—The nailors among themselves are fond of relating instances of

great personal dexterity. The following took place, 1827-8.

James Leighton, a nailsmith in the employ of Mr. Thomas Gillies, ironmonger, of Stirling, undertook, for a trifling bet, to make 17,000 double flooring nails, 1,200 to a thousand of 20 pounds, for two successive weeks; a task which must, to all who have any knowledge of this trade, seem scarcely credible. The workman finished his first week's task by three o'clock on Saturday afternoon; resumed his labour on Monday morning, and concluded his second week's task with even more ease than he did the first.

Those who do not understand the nature of the work may form some idea of the undertaking, when they are informed that the above quantity is allowed to be as much as three ordinary men can perform without difficulty; and that, allowing twenty-five strokes of the hammer (which is two pounds weight) to each nail, including the cutting of the rods into a size convenient to be handled, and re-uniting them when too short, there were no less than 1,033,656 strokes required before the task could be completed.

In addition to this, the workman had to give from one to three blasts with his bellows for every nail he made, had to supply the fire with fuel, and had to move from the fire place, to where the nails were made, upwards of 42,836 times.

The workman entered into his fifty-first year on the day on which he commenced his task, and had been upwards of forty-two years a nailor; and, in 1800, when in Ireland, in his Majesty's service, beat one who was reckoned the best workman in that country, by 770 nails, during twelve hours' work.

STEAM-NAVIGATION OF THE SHORES OF THE PACIFIC.

THE majestic undertakings which enterprising men are now making at Panama, and its line of coast, for the furtherance of grand commercial purposes, and the sociality of nations in general, cannot be too openly before the world.

First is the establishment of steam navigation along the shores of the Pacific Ocean, in connexion with the passage of the Isthmus of Panama, to the Atlantic.

Second, is the meditated severment of the Isthmus in question, by another party of individuals, which will not fail to be a powerful auxiliary to the first.

To the establishers of the first project—a body of private men—her majesty's government, considering the manifold advantages that would accrue to the trade of this country with the Pacific, and to commerce in general, if a more prompt communication were instituted, and deeming it entitled to support, conferred on the company a royal charter; while, on the other hand, the government of the Pacific

States, equally impressed with the benefits which would be necessarily resultant from the establishment of a rapid communication along their shores, also granted to the said company for a term of years, exclusive and valuable privileges for the navigation of their coasts.

The Pacific Steam-navigation commences its operations at that precise point where our government operations cease; so that, by the co-operation of both, the communication between Great Britain, and the coasts of Peru and Chile is continued, and altogether accomplished in thirty or forty days:—by the old system of sailing-vessels, this demanded a period of four months' voyage.

Nature, indeed, seems to have intended for steam navigation, that great line of coast; the physical difficulties of which, oppose an almost insurmountable barrier to any other method of marine communication. The prevailing south-winds, the calms, the currents of the ocean, render navigation by sailing-vessels tedious and uncertain in the extreme, and the travel by land is more than formidable.

The Isthmus of Panama is the only part of land travel in any part of the route. Over this, there exists no present difficulty of crossing; but we are happy to observe that even this apparent obstacle to the smooth course of steam-navigation, is likely to be soon removed. From a contemporary paper (the *Athenæum*) we learn that:—

"The project for cutting through the Isthmus of Panama is, it seems, at length about to be realized. Transports have been freighted by a number of French engineers, for the conveyance of tools and materials of all sorts necessary to the undertaking; and the formation of the canal will be commenced immediately on their reaching the Isthmus. . . . Thus are rapidly breaking down the physical barriers by which the races of men have been for so many ages kept apart. . . . The world is likely, by and bye, to intercommunicate by common signs—to have something like universal *media*, by which its several parts may get at each other's meaning."

These changes, which are robbing the world of many quaint aspects, are replacing them by features far more magnificent.

OPENING OF RAPHAEL'S TOMB.

RAPHAEL was buried in the Pantheon (Sta. Maria della Rotonda) in a chapel which he had himself endowed, and near the spot where his betrothed bride had been laid. The immediate neighbourhood was afterwards selected by other painters as their place of rest. Baldassare Peruzzi, Giovanni da Udine, Pierino del Vaga, Taddeo Zuccaro, and others, are buried near. No question had ever existed as to the precise spot where the remains of the master lay; but a few years since the Roman antiquaries began to raise doubts even respect-

ing the church in which Raphael was buried. In the end, permission was obtained to make actual search; and Vasari's account was, in this instance, completely verified. The tomb was found as he describes it, behind the altar itself of the chapel above-mentioned. Four views of the tomb and its contents were engraved from drawings by Cammuccini, and thus preserve the appearance that presented itself. The shroud had been fastened with a number of metal rings and points; some of these were kept by the sculptor Fabris, of Rome, who is also in possession of casts from the skull and the right hand. Passavant remarks, judging from the cast, that the skull was of a singularly fine form. The bones of the hand were all perfect, but they crumbled to dust after the mould was taken. The skeleton measured about five feet seven inches; the coffin was extremely narrow, indicating a very slender frame. The precious relics were ultimately restored to the same spot, after being placed in a magnificent sarcophagus, given by the present pope.

Several delegates from different institutions* and other authorities were appointed to be present when the tomb was opened; among these was the celebrated German painter, Overbeck, one of the worthiest of Raphael's followers; and to him we are indebted for some details, in a letter addressed to Director Veit, of Frankfort, in September, 1833. Passavant gives the letter entire, and completes the account from other sources equally authentic. Overbeck's feelings on the first opening of the tomb, and on seeing the actual remains of the object of his homage, are expressed in a striking manner; but he soon after remarks, "that, alas! the spirit of the great artist remains buried far deeper than his bones."—*Quarterly Review*, No. CXXXI.

EPHEMERAL FAME.

It may almost be laid down as an axiom for writers, that the extravagantly lauded of one generation, will be the neglected and despised of the next. When Sir Philip Sydney prophesied ever-enduring fame to the "statelike tragedie" of "Gorboduc," when his contemporaries predicted the same high gerdon for his own "Arcadia,"—when, too, his master Lyly's "incomparable Euphues," that quintessence of affectation, was eulogized by nearly all the writers of that brilliant period, as "a storehouse of swete wrytinge, whither to the end of time all yonge poets would repair"—how would each and all have stood aghast, had they been told, that ere one century should

* The members of the Academy of St. Luke were interested in this investigation, as they had long been in possession of a skull supposed to be that of Raphael, and which had been the admiration of the followers of Gall and Spurzheim. The reputation of this relic naturally fell with its change of name, the more inextricably, as it proved to have belonged to an individual of no celebrity.

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elapse, their works would be pronounced absolutely unreadable; and that, ere the close of the second, they would be unknown, save in the libraries of book-collectors, as specimens of the strange and peculiar taste of our forefathers. But in cases of unquestionable merit, though the long-neglected volume may moulder unregarded through many generations, yet at length some diligent explorer of the rich stores of antiquity shall draw it forth and present it, with all its poetical beauties and bold original thoughts, to the spontaneous homage of an age, as ignorant before of its existence as were our forefathers of the long-buried treasures of Pompeii.

THE OCEANIC REGION.

THE geographical region or quarter which has been designated Oceania, or *Oceanie* in French, extends from about the 95th degree of east, to the 110th degree of west longitude, and from the 25th of north, to the 50th of south latitude. Within these limits, stretching ten thousand miles in every direction, we have a vast ocean, with a profusion of islands scattered over it, one of them rather a continent than an island; five or six more, each equal in magnitude to almost any in the world; and one peninsula of great size.

Superficies of the Land.—The great mass of the land lies between the 95th and the 106th degree of east longitude. Beyond the tropics we have about two thirds of Australia, and the whole of New Zealand. All the rest of this region is strictly tropical, and by far the larger portion of it lies within ten degrees of each side of the equator. The total superficies of the land has been estimated at 3,100,000 geographical square miles, making this division of the globe, therefore, larger than Europe, although greatly smaller than Asia, Africa, or America.

Statistics of Extent.—By giving the superficies of a few of the principal countries, a clearer notion will be conveyed to the reader of its relative and composite extent:—

	Square Miles.
Australia	1,496,000
Malayan Peninsula	48,000
Sumatra	130,000
Borneo	212,500
Java	50,000
Celebes	55,000
New Guinea	213,300
Mindanao	25,000
Luconia	30,600
New Zealand	150,000
	<hr/> 2,410,400

In addition to these, nearly 100,000 square miles may be added for many considerable islands, varying in size from 100 to 9,000 square miles; so that the total area, exclusive of a vast multitude of isles and islets, which not only cannot be measured, but cannot even

be counted, will be upwards of two millions and a half of square miles.

Comparative Extent.—By the above calculation it appears, that here are countries, greater in extent than China and Hindostan put together. Australia itself is more extensive than the Chinese Empire; Borneo, three times the size of Great Britain; Sumatra larger than Great Britain and Ireland put together; while Luconia, the principal of the Philippines, is equal in size to the last-named island.

Geology of Oceania.—The geological formation of lands, so scattered, and so widely spread is, of course, exceedingly various, but the primitive, and trap or volcanic formations prevail. To the first belong the Malayan Peninsula, Borneo, and Celebes. In those where granite is the principal rock, gold abounds, while the Malayan peninsula, with some islands adjacent to it, contains, besides that metal, the richest and most extensive tin formation in the world. The basaltic or volcanic formation embraces the whole chain of islands lying between Celebes and Papua, famous for the production of the clove and nutmeg. The basaltic islands are remarkably deficient in metals, but are more than compensated for it, in the majority of cases, by an incomparable fertility of soil. Of the mixed primitive and volcanic formations are composed the island of Sumatra and the principal islands of the Philippine group. In these, gold is found, but less abundantly than in the countries of purely primitive formation; but they are at the same time of a soil more fertile. Australia, as might be expected from so extensive a country, comprises almost every variety of geological formation, primitive, secondary, and volcanic. It abounds in mineral coal, which is also to be found in Sumatra, Java, and some of the smaller islands. The diamond is found in Borneo only. Copper is found, but not wrought, in Sumatra, Luconia, and Timor. Lead is found in Luconia; and perhaps the most abundant ore of antimony in the world, and which now supplies the European market is found in Borneo. Compared with other countries, iron may be considered as scantily produced everywhere, but particularly in the volcanic islands. Enough has never been produced for the consumption of the inhabitants, and this metal is, therefore, largely imported.

Rivers of the Oceanic Region.—Even in Australia, contrary to what might be expected, there are no rivers of long course, or of great magnitude; and the smaller islands are, of course, deficient in them. Number, however, in some degree, makes up for the want of size. The high mountains of those within the torrid zone pour down a perennial and abundant supply of water, and there are no countries in the world consequently less subject to drought than these.

Mountains and Volcanoes.—No region more abounds in mountains. The highest are found on Sumatra, Java, and some of the islands immediately to the eastward of the

latter. These are of an elevation varying from ten to fifteen thousand feet. A great many of them are volcanoes, of which Java is thought to count not less than fifteen, Luconia four, and Sumatra five. The eruptions of some of these, even in our times, have altered the face of the lands in which they exist, and been accompanied by a vast destruction of life and property.

Climate and Atmosphere.—With the exception of New Zealand and the larger portion of Australia, which enjoy a temperate climate, the rest of Oceania is in the torrid zone; but the climate is tempered by a rich covering of vegetation, frequent and abundant rain, and the insular character of the whole region. A portion of Australia alone is within the region of variable winds; the rest within the influence of the trade-winds or monsoons. From Sumatra to New Guinea, and even thirty degrees further east, although more uncertain, the latter extend. To the north of the equator, the wind blows half the year from the south-west, and half the year from the north-east, uninterruptedly; and to the south of the equator, half of the year from the north-west, and the remainder of the year from the south-east. In these tropical regions the season of continual rain—generally does not exceed three months. Here the distinctions of summer and of winter, of spring and autumn, and the changes in the vegetable creation (by no means however very distinct) alone proclaim a change of season.

Botany of the Oceanic Regions.—Of the varied vegetable productions of these countries, it would be in vain to attempt even the barest outline. The greater portion of the country is, down to the present day, unaltered by the industry of man, and as it came from the hand of nature, covered with primeval forests of rich foliage, with very trifling exceptions, in one uniform and perpetual verdure. The useful vegetable products of these islands, indigenous and exotic, are numerous and various. Some of the chief indigenous plants of the greatest utility are, rice, a variety of palms, but chiefly the cocoa-nut, the sugar-cane, the clove, the nutmeg; and, among fruits, several cucurbitaceous plants, the shaddock, the banana, the delicate mangosteen, perhaps the most exquisite of known fruits, and the durian, unquestionably the most rich and luscious. Among exotics, but long and thoroughly naturalized, may be named many pulses, maize, cotton, pepper, coffee, tobacco, the mango, and the pine-apple.

Zoology.—Animal life is nearly as vigorous and varied as the vegetable. In the tropical portion of Oceania, the greater animals are confined to the greater islands. The elephant is known only on the Peninsula, Sumatra, and the north-east part of Borneo. Two species of rhinoceros, distinct from those of Africa and Asia, are confined to the Malayan peninsula, Sumatra, Borneo, and Java; and the two first named afford the tapir. The tiger, and many

others of the feline tribe, abound in all the large islands to the westward, but seem to disappear as we advance eastward. In the forests of the great islands also are to be found the wild ox and buffalo, originals of those that have been domesticated. Deer are found chiefly in the great islands, and these of many varieties, differing in size, from considerably smaller than an ordinary rabbit, up to that of the elk. The hog is nearly universal, and as abundant as it is widely spread. The Moluccas, and shores of New Guinea contain a peculiar species of this animal, to all appearance, equally partaking of the hog and the deer, and fairly called by the natives the babiroussa, or hog-deer. The orang-outan, or man of the forest, so called by the natives themselves, seems confined to Borneo and Sumatra.

Birds of these Regions.—The feathered tribe becomes the more remarkable as we proceed eastward. Here they are of singular forms, and their plumage resplendent. The parrot family, the lories, the cockatoos, the whole family of the birds of paradise, and the magnificent crown-pigeon. Here also the kangaroo begins to present itself.

The Fishes of Oceania.—In the narrow and temperate seas fish abound, particularly where extensive banks exist, as the Straits of Malacca, a kind of Mediterranean Sea; the northern coast of Java; the shallow bays which indent Celebes, and the group of the Philippines. Seals do not present themselves till we get beyond the tropics, and whales are comparatively rare within the equatorial region. The abundance of fish, and the facility of taking them, has rendered the fisher, instead of the hunter state, the prevailing condition of most of the rude tribes.

Population of Oceania.—The total population of this region is calculated to amount to fifteen millions, which comprehend at least three distinct races of men.

Languages of the Oceanic Nations.—Upon investigation, it would appear that each Oceanic language is of separate and distinct origin,—and that the people by whom they were spoken, communicated words to each other exactly in proportion to the closeness of neighbourhood, or extent of intercourse between them, the ruder and weaker tribes commonly borrowing from the most improved and powerful. On this principle, the different languages may be divided into several classes or groups, and named after the nation which seems to have exercised the greatest influence in its propagation.

1. *The first or Malayan group*, includes Sumatra, the peninsula of Molucca, and the east and west coasts of Borneo, over which the Malayan language exercised such influence.

2. *The second or Javanese group*, includes the island of Java, and the neighbouring islands of Madura, Bali, and Lombok; it is these the Javanese, a language bearing considerable resemblance to the Malayan, prevailed

The *Third* or *Bugis* group, from the name of the principal nation and language of Celebes, extended itself over the islands of Bonton, Salayer, and Sumbawa, and part of the south coast of Borneo, where the Bugis settled and founded states. The Bugis language differs very materially from the two preceding.

The *fourth* or *Philippine* group, in which the Tagala language has probably the greatest influence, takes in the great archipelago of the Philippines, including Mindanao, the cluster of the Sooloo islands, with Palawan, and a small portion of the southern promontory of Borneo.

The *fifth* or *Molucca* group, has most probably had its language swayed by the more civilized people of Fernate.

A *sixth* group will embrace the *South Sea Islands*, inhabited by the yellow-complexioned race, whose languages possess a great number of words that are common to all the dialects of the South Sea, but which differ entirely from those of the northern or western Oceanic nations.

A separate group, smaller than any of the preceding, might be formed, of the languages spoken from Flores to Timor inclusive, by that race which is neither yellow-complexioned nor Negrito, but partakes of both, and which is conjectured to be a third and distinct Oceanic race.

INJURIOUS EFFECTS OF BLACK PAINT.*

THERE is nothing that better proves the injurious effects of black paint than by observing the black streaks of a ship after having been in a tropical climate for any length of time. It will be found that the wood round the fastenings is in a state of decay, while the white work is as sound as ever; the planks that are painted black will be found split in all directions, while the frequent necessity of caulking a ship in that situation, likewise adds to the common destruction. A piece of wood painted white will be preserved from perishing as long again, if exposed to the weather, as a similar piece painted black, especially in a tropical climate. Many men of considerable experience say, that black is good for nothing on wood, as it possesses no *body* to exclude the weather.

But a far greater evil than this attends the use of black paint, which ought entirely to exclude its use on any work out of doors, viz., *its property of absorbing heat.*

Wood having a black surface, will imbibe considerably more heat in the same temperature of climate, than if that surface were white; from which circumstance we may easily conclude that the pores of wood of any nature will have a tendency to expand, and rend in all directions, when exposed under

* Abridged from a paper, "On the Injurious effects of Black Paint," in the Transactions of the Society of Arts.

such circumstances. The water of course being admitted, causes a gradual and progressive decay, which must be imperceptibly increasing from every change of weather. Two circumstances, confirmative of these remarks, deserve mention:

The first was the state of H. M. Sloop, *Ringdove*, condemned by survey at Halifax, N.S., in the year 1828.

This brig had been on the West India station for many years. On her being found defective, and a survey called, the report was to the effect that the wood all round the fastenings was totally decayed in the wake of the black, while that in the wake of the white was as sound as ever.

The next instance relates to H. M. Ship, *Excellent*, of 98 guns, (formerly the *Boyne*).

This ship was moored east and west, by bow and stern moorings; consequently, the starboard side was always exposed to the effects of the sun, both in summer and winter.

In this situation, her sides were painted in the usual manner of a ship of war; viz., black and white, of which by far the greater part is black; this latter portion on the starboard side it was found impossible to keep tight; for as often as one leak was apparently stopped, another broke out, and thus baffled the skill of all interested.

In the meantime, the side not exposed to the rays of the sun, remained perfectly sound.

To remedy the above defects, the ship was painted a light drab colour where it was black before, upon which the leaks ceased, and she has continued perfectly tight ever since. The shrinking and splitting, also, which went on to an astonishing extent when the outside surface was black, entirely ceased upon alteration of the colour.

New Books.

The Paris Sketch-Book. By Mr. Titmarsh. 1840. [Macrone.]

["*LA BELLE FRANCE*" was the anciently-assumed title of a country, which Song and Chivalry of old time so much honoured; but a knight-errant of the modern day, by name Mr. Titmarsh, makes out a pretty fair warranty towards reversion of that titular assumption. Investing things with no imaginary *couleur de rose*, the Sketch-Book draws to the life, and probes to the quick. Whatsoever it attempts, it touches with a vital, *spirituel* pencil. Voyons — to the proof:—]

Starting by Packet from London.

About twelve o'clock, just as the bell of the packet is tolling a farewell to London-bridge, and warning off the blackguard boys with the newspapers, who have been shoving "*Times*," "*Herald*," "*Penny Paul-Pry*," "*Penny Satirist*," "*Flare-up*," and other abominations, into your face—just as the bell has tolled, and the Jews, strangers, people-taking-leave-of-their-families, and blackguard boys aforesaid,

are making a rush for the narrow plank which conducts from the paddle-box of the Emerald steamboat to the quay—you perceive, staggering down Thames-street, those two hackney-coaches, for the arrival of which you have been praying, trembling, hoping, despairing, swearing—sw—, I beg your pardon, I believe the word is not used in polite company—and transpiring, for the last half-hour. Yes, at last, the two coaches draw near, and from thence an awful number of trunks, children, carpet-bags, nursery-maids, hat-boxes, band-boxes, bonnet-boxes, desks, cloaks, and an affectionate wife, are discharged on the quay. “Elizabeth, take care of Miss Jane,” screams that worthy woman, who has been for a fortnight employed in getting this tremendous body of troops and baggage into marching order. “Hicks! Hicks! for heaven’s sake mind the babies!”—“George—Edward, sir, if you go near that porter with the trunk, he will tumble down and kill you, you naughty boy!—My love, do take the cloaks and umbrellas, and give a hand to Fanny and Lucy; and I wish you would speak to the hackney-coachmen, dear, they want fifteen shillings, and count the packages, love—twenty-seven packages,—and bring little Flo; where’s little Flo!—Flo!—Flo!”—(Flo comes sneaking in; she has been speaking a few parting words to a one-eyed terrier, that sneaks off similarly, landward.) As when the hawk menaces the hen-roost, in like manner, when such a danger as a voyage menaces a mother, she suddenly bristles, and screams, in front of her brood; so, in like manner, you will always, I think, find your wife (if that lady be good for two-pence,) shrill, eager, and ill-humoured, before and during a great family move of this nature. Well, the swindling hackney-coachmen are paid, the mother leading on her regiment of little ones, and supported by her auxiliary nurse-maids, are safe in the cabin; you have counted twenty-six of the twenty-seven parcels, and have them on board, and that horrid man on the paddle-box, who, for twenty minutes past, has been roaring out, NOW, SIR!—says, *now, sir, no more.*

Paris and its Customs.

“But, behold us at Paris! The Diligence has reached a rude-looking gate, or *grille*, flanked by two lodges; the French kings of old, made their entry at this gate; some of the hottest battles of the late revolution were fought before it. At present, it is blocked by caris and peasants, and a busy crowd of men, in green, examining the packages before they enter, probing the straw with long needles. It is the Barrier of St. Dennis, and the green men are the Customs’ men of the city of Paris. If you are a countryman, who would introduce a cow into the Metropolis, the city demands twenty-four francs for such a privilege; if you have a hundred weight of tallow candles, you must, previously, disburse three

francs; if a drove of hogs, nine francs per whole hog.

Versailles: as it was, and as it is.

You pass, from the railroad station, through a long lonely suburb, with dusty rows of stunted trees on either side, and some few miserable beggars, idle boys, and ragged old women, under them. Behind the trees, are gaunt, mouldy houses—palaces once, where (in the days of the unbought grace of life) the cheap defence of nations gambled, ogled, swindled, intrigued; whence high-born duchesses used to issue, in old times, to act as chambermaids to lovely Du Barri, and mighty princes rolled away, in gilt caroches, hot for the honour of lighting his Majesty to bed, or of presenting his stockings when he arose, or of holding his napkin when he dined. Tailors chandlers, timmen, wretched hucksters, and green-grocers, are now established in the mansions of the old peers; small children are yelling at the doors, with mouths besmeared with bread and treacle; damp rage are hanging out of every one of the windows, steaming in the sun; oyster-shells, cabbage-stalks, broken crockery, old papers, lie basking in the same cheerful light. A solitary water-cart goes jingling down the wide pavement, and spirts a feeble refreshment over the dusty, thirsty stones. After pacing for some time, through such dismal streets, we *deboucher* on the grand palace; and before us, lies the palace dedicated to all the glories of France. In the midst of the great, lonely plain, this famous residence of King Louis looks low and mean. Honoured pile! time was when tall musketeers and gilded body-guards allowed none to pass the gate; fifty years ago, ten thousand drunken women, from Paris, broke through the charm; and now, a tattered commissioner will conduct you through it for a penny, and lead you to the sacred entrance of the palace.

Boulogne.

A strange, mongrel, merry place, this town of Boulogne; the little French fishermen’s children are beautiful, and the little French soldiers, four feet high, red-breeched, with huge *pompons* on their caps, and brown faces, and clear sharp eyes, look, for all their littleness, far more military and more intelligent than the heavy louts one has seen swaggering about the garrison towns in England. Yonder go a crown of bare-legged fishermen; there is the town idiot, mocking a woman who is screaming “*Fleuve du Tage*,” at an unwindow, to a harp, and there are the little gamins mocking him.

French Tragedy and Comedy of the old School.

There are (says the writer) three kinds of drama in France, which you may subdivide as much as you please. There is the old classical drama, well-nigh dead, and full time too. Old tragedies, in which half-a-dozen characters appear, and spout sonorous Alexandrines for

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half-a-dozen hours: the fair Rachel has been trying to revive this *genre*, and to untomb Racine; but be not alarmed, Racine will never come to life again, and cause audiences to weep, as of yore. Madame Rachel can only galvanise the corpse, not revivify it. Ancient French tragedy, red-heeled, patched, and beperiwigged, lies in the grave; and it is only the ghost of it that we see, which the fair Jewess has raised. There are classical comedies in verse, too, wherein the knavish varlets, and heroes, stolid old guardians, and smart, free-spoken serving-women, discourse in Alexandrines as loud as the Horaces or the Cid. An Englishman will seldom reconcile himself to the *roulement* of the verses, and the painful recurrence of the rhymes; for my part I had rather go to Madame Saqui's, or see Deburan dancing on a rope; his lines are quite as natural and poetical.

REVENUE COLLECTED AT THE OUTPORTS,

*During the Year terminating on the 5th of
January, 1840.*

[From a recent Parliamentary Report.]

ENGLAND.

	£.	s.	d.
Liverpool	4,080,664	7	2
Bristol	1,053,192	3	2
Hull	839,572	4	7
Gloucester	156,365	14	8
Lancaster	38,956	0	8
Chester	77,136	6	5
Exeter	81,000	0	0
Newcastle	444,325	9	1
Plymouth	90,109	11	6
Portsmouth	39,014	0	0
Southampton . . .	40,775	8	0
Stockton	78,275	16	3
Sunderland	102,804	8	1
Whitehaven	102,143	11	6
Yarmouth	54,352	12	6

Revenue collected at the Principal Ports of

SCOTLAND.

Aberdeen	63,441	13	5
Dundee	83,732	18	7
Leith	425,181	18	8
Glasgow	63,122	19	0

Revenue collected at the Principal Ports of

IRELAND.

Belfast	308,357	0	0
Cork	211,840	0	0
Dublin	781,495	0	0
Dundalk	11,510	0	0
Galway	18,300	0	0
Limerick	126,319	0	0
Londonderry	85,358	0	0
Newry	33,488	0	0
Sligo	14,568	0	0
Waterford	161,632	12	4

DEVELOPMENT OF INNATE GENIUS.

GENIUS is a plant of too delicate a texture to expand its tender blossoms in the bleak shades of poverty. Bring it into the sun, nurture it with warmth and care, and hitherto repressed growth breaks into splendid beauty. But withhold your encouragement, and the desert air dries up its fragrance, even to withering.

Such has been the case with genius per *secula seculorum*. Homer had no patron, and though an "orb of song," of "gold seven-times globed," yet all the days of his life were overshadowed by poverty's eclipse; nay, Virgil might have piped his *Bucolics* to the wind, had he not met with a *Mæcenæ*s.

Kindly patronage has in most cases developed latent talent. One of Rome's popes was the son of a gardener, but *never* would he have got to the *Cæsarian* throne, except for the favour he at first received. Behmen, whose "*Magnum Mysterium*" astounds even the wise, was a leather-cutter, and might have cut to the "crack of doom," had not penetrating patrons brought forth the "*Teutonic Philosopher*." So soon as patronized, the Shepherd of Ettrick waxed into a poet, and the "Ayrshire sculptor" carved to the world's wonder. Mr. Lough—another of the same school—whose heart had dreamed of statted loveliness, and whose hand could perfect what his soul had dreamed, has just been lifted out of dim obscurity, and now confronts to the blaze of noon, sculptures exquisite and significant as a Grecian's. At this moment, too, a contemporaneous individual in France, has astonished his compatriots by his efforts. According to the "*Courrier de l'Europe*," this "cordonnier" has resigned the knife of St. Crispin, and wields the chisel, like an incipient Phidias:—

"A shoe-maker of Blois, who had worked at his calling upwards of ten years, took it into his head last year to build only a little house sufficient for himself. That which he conceived, he executed: himself alone, became architect, mason, and carpenter. At the present moment, this house, in the construction of which no other workman has lent a hand, is now nearly finished. Many people of taste have been to visit it. They have found it of excellent construction, and even distinguished by an air of elegance. But the talent of the artist did not end here; he next undertook to sculpture the rough blocks from Bourré, which he had left jutting out in the façade of his building, into shape and comeliness of structure. With very indifferent implements, he commenced cutting these, and soon transformed them into several bas-reliefs which represent:—

1. A Cupid, mounted on a panther.
2. A combat of Dogs with Bears.
3. An Eagle.
4. A Lion fondling a Dog.

He has since worked at a Bacchus, and also at

a Ho-goat, which he has copied very faithfully from an engraving made after a group, by the celebrated Adam. He has composed from his own imagination all the other subjects, except the first mythological statue which he copied from a very wretched engraving, though that which the artist has re-produced turns all its blemishes into beauties.

The Gatherer.

Extent of Vegetable Diet.—The food of the working classes, not only of Belgium, but of all the countries of the Continent, consists of vegetables; meat is not the food of the working classes, either of Belgium or any other country. The Italians eat macaroni; the staple food of the French and Germans, is bread and cabbage; of the Irish, potatoes. The Indians eat rice; the West Indians yams and bread-tree; the Africans dates; in fact, a fraction, and that a very small one, of mankind, are carnivorous.

Betrothal of the Sultan's Sister.—On the 25th of June last, the betrothal of Ahmet-Fechi-Pacha took place, to the sister of the Sultan. The presents sent to the Princess by her future husband, consisted of a superb veil, brodered with pearls and diamonds, valued at 300,000 piastres; slippers enriched with precious stones; quantities of *châles*, dress-stuffs, &c.; two large coffers filled with perfumes; one hundred and fifty panniers filled with sweetmeats, and a superb mirror-glass, ornamented with precious stones. The young Pacha has also presented to her brother, the Sultan, a sabre of great value, and a saddle, which is gorgeously enriched.—The marriage is soon expected to take place.—*French Paper.*

Philetas, one of the most distinguished of the Alexandrian grammarians and critics, and tutor to the second Ptolemy, is expressly recorded by Athenæus, to have so reduced himself by his studies, that he was obliged, according to Ælian, to wear leaden bullets in his shoes, lest he should be blown away by the wind.—*Ælian, Var. Hist. iv. 14.*

The Basque Languages.—Rich and expressive as the Bascuense is, it is confined to the hills and valleys of only a small portion of the Pyrenees.

In India, there is a stupendous mountain, called Koh-i-baba, which signifies, literally, "The Father of Mountains."

Hadji Khan, the chief officer under Shah Soojah, who thus raised himself to the highest rank by cunning and enterprize, commenced life in the humble capacity of melon-vender.

Archæological Discovery at Wallachia.—Some peasants working in a field, lately made a rich treasure-trove. Supposing all, however, to be metal, they disposed of them to travelling Bohemians, from whom they have since been

recovered. They are all in gold, with crystal and coloured stones, and include two rings, or large circles, a gorget or breast-plate, four lamps, one representing a falcon, two the goddess Iris, and the fourth without a figured ornament, three vases with handles, a plateau or tray, and a patera.

Versailles.—An additional suit of galleries, belonging to the Museum of Versailles, has just been thrown open to our Gallic neighbours.

Monster Tree.—An oak, in the forest near Chimay, in Belgium, measures fifteen feet round, and forty feet in height. This is a giant for Europe.

Fountains of the Champs-Élysées.—The five fountains of the Champs-Élysées are finished. The basin which occupies the round point of the grand avenue of Neuilly, has commenced to play for trial: the waters of the five united, will shoot a prodigious height, and form a fine effect.

A very beautiful flesh-colour, with white lights and red half-tints, is frequently observable in the works of Giovanni Santi, particularly in the altar-piece of Sta. Croce, at Fano.

Which are the most industrious letters!—The Bee's.

Which are the most extensive letters!—The Sea's.

Which are the masculine letters!—The He's.

Which are the egotistical letters!—The I's.

Which are the leguminous letters!—The Peas.

Which are the old-fashioned letters!—The Queu's.

Which are the sensible letters!—The Wise.

W. G. C.

The Royal Institution of Sciences, at Milan, has offered a prize of 1700 livres for the best architectural memoir on roofs, which are most beneficially suited in their materials and construction, for Lombardy.

Vauxhall.—The ground which forms the site of Vauxhall Gardens, is spoken of as being about to be converted into a dépôt for the trade which arrives by the Southampton Railway.

Hogarth.—The only scenes Hogarth ever drew from Shakespeare, are the following:—

The Examination of the Recruits before Shallow and Silence; purchased by Mr. Garrick, at Lord Essex's sale, for fifty guineas.—A sketch in chalk, on blue paper, of *Falstaff and his companions*; formerly in the possession of Mr. S. Ireland; and *Mr. Garrick, in Richard*, which was purchased by Mr. Duncombe, of Duncombe Park, Yorkshire, for two hundred pounds.

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